

Union College Dec 17 / 114



Fern

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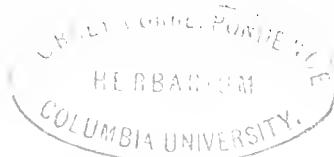
Prof. John Torrey.

Sir,

Although a stranger to you I have been induced from the request you made in your report on the plants of the state of New York, to send you a catalogue of plants some of which are rare about Ithaca and others ~~not generally~~ found perhaps <sup>throughout</sup> the state. During my rambles in this vicinity the two seasons past, I have noticed about 1000 species of flowering plants and ferns. There are undoubtedly 100 to 200 sp. more, which I have not as yet found.

I have received so much assistance from your invaluable "Flora of North America" that I have been inclined on hundred times to enquire of you when we may expect your final report on the plants of this state and at the same time to beg of you in behalf of the beginners in botany in this state to make us a small pocket manual for the use of our Colleges and academies containing all our plants hitherto discovered. I know of nothing which would so much facilitate the study of Botany.

We have 167 academies; at 120 of which Botany is taught; more than 100 of these use Mr. Lincoln's Botany a book totally unfit to teach the true principles of the science and at least 30 years behind the age.



Gray's "Elements of Botany" an excellent book for students in the Physiology of plants is out of print. Only 1 doz could be obtained this spring in New York and Albany; and we are no better supplied with cheap Manuals; I sent to the publishers and to New York, for <sup>this summer</sup> 30 of Beck's Flora of the Northern & Mid. States, for a copy and could not obtain a single copy. Our young men could not afford to pay from \$3.50 to \$5 for the large manuals; so that they were forced to take Mrs. Lincoln's as the only book adapted to their means.

If we could have a book, therefore, of convenient size containing a concise & neat account of Structural & Physiology Botany and a manual of the plants of this state bound up with it or separate, to suit the purchaser: & if such a work could be sold (as I think it might) for the same price or a little less than Mrs. L's; it would be just the book we want & would take the place of all others in our academies.

Will not you, Sir, furnish the 12000 students in our colleges & academies in this state with such a tech. book as we need? In so doing you would ~~render~~ render an essential service in the dissemination of a correct knowledge of this delightful science among the youth of our state.

Will there be a set of plants furnished for the colleges of this state? If there are any plants growing in this vicinity that you would like I should be most happy to send them to you.

Yours respectfully. Jonathan Pearson.  


*Clematis Verteillaris* P.C.  
*Sinodendron tulifera* L.  
*Berberis vulgaris* L.  
*Asteria corymbosa* Raf.  
*Cardamine rotundifolia* Michx.  
*Parnassia caroliniana* Michx.

*Clatonia Virginica* L.  
" *Caroliniana*  
*Hippuris vulgaris*  
*clitella* nud. L.  
*Rhododendron viscosum*  
*Kalmia glauca*

*Ledum latifolium*  
*Hypopithys laevigata Nutt.*  
*Asclepias phytophylloides L.*  
*Cynoglossum virginicum L.*  
*Linnaea stellata Willd*  
" *Montana*"  
" *Macrocarpa*.

This is found only in one locality; as I had not found it credited to this state I at first thought it must be some other species, but on comparing it with a specimen from Wisconsin & with Michaux's plate I have no longer any doubt. The leaves are very variable in form, I have found some small trees whose leaves exactly agree with Michx's *L. oliviformis*, which sp. I have sometimes thought he has made from a leaf of the *L. macrocarpa* and an acorn of some other species.

*Ulmus Racemosa*, Thomas  
*Pinus resinosa* Ait.  
*Nabalaria dilatata* Spreng.  
*Microstoma sphaeroglossoides* Nutt.  
" *brachycoda* Gray.  
*Coralloriza venosa* Nutt.  
*Polygonia verticillata* Nutt.  
*Cypripedium arietinum* Ait.  
*Primula erythocarpum* Michx  
" *erectum*, var. *flavum*.  
" *cernuum*.

*Allium Canadense* L.  
*Streptopus amplexipoloides*  
*Monotropa perfoliata* L. var. *major* Michx  
*Asparagus officinalis* L.  
*Suzula pilosa* Willd.  
*Arum dracontium* L.  
*Polypodium Calcareum* Smith  
*Asplenium Rhizophyllum* L.  
" *trichomanes* L.  
" *reticulatum* L.

*Pteris atropurpurea*  
*Bryochium Virginicum* J.W.  
*Sporocladium Selago* L.

*Aster Greenii*  
This was found here by Mr. Tuckerman of Boston.  
*Pterospora andromeda*  
*Populus balsamifera*  
" *monilifera*  
*Equisetum Scirpoides*  
*Campanula Americana*, (Hudson)  
*Betula papyracea*,  
*Convallaria trifolia* L.  
*Lupinus perennis*, occasionally I have found here a var. perfectly white, *symphocarpus fetidus*. I have found not a few plants of this sp. whose flowers had 2 + 3 spathes, i.e. one spathe was contained within another, and the spadix in the centre; or sometimes the spadix has been found within 3 perfect concentric spathes. In one instance at least I have found instead of a second spathe a perfect leaf coloured deep purple like the spathe, growing out of the spathe <sup>by the</sup> side of the spadix. These cases are of so common occurrence that I would suggest whether it would not be well to slightly alter the generic description of the *Sympocarpus*.

*Viola cucullata*, A pupil of mine brought to me last season a curiously variegated var. of this sp. the petals being striped, blue & white, he said that there was a large number of them growing together within the space of a few feet.

*Diclytra Canadensis*  
" *cucullaria*

*Urtica bulbosa*, var. *alba*. I have now and then found them pure white.  
*Cerastium nutans*  
*Veronica Avenue*  
*Sparganium simplex*  
*Violae tricolor*, (in a meadow in Charlton) <sup>da. co.</sup>  
*Hydrophyllum Canadense*  
*Oxalis acetosella*  
*Leparis laseli*  
*Aralia hispida*  
*Onosmodium hispidum*.



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